



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Civil Service and Registration

Board of Registration in Medicine

State Office Building, Government Center

100 Cambridge Street, Boston 02202

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1970-1971

(In Compliance with General Laws, Chapter 112, Section 4)

FUNCTION OR PURPOSE: See previous Annual Reports.

MEMBERSHIP: General Laws, Chapter 13, Section 10.

The membership of the Board for the period of this report follows:

1968 Joseph M. Baker, M.D., Springfield
1945 Anthony O. Cardullo, M.D., Boston
1967 Vasilios G. Letsou, M.D., Lowell
1959 Charles A. Robinson, M.D., Chairman to
August 5, 1970, Boston.
1965 Charles W. Sauter, 2d, D.O., Gardner
1948 Bancroft C. Wheeler, M.D., Worcester, Chairman
1970 Gross, Isadore, M.D., Boston (replaced
Dr. Robinson).
1955 David W. Wallwork, M.D., North Andover, Secretary

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD: (General Laws, Chapter 13, Section 11). Three meetings obligatory. There were eight meetings in the period covered by this report.

ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD:

Registration of physicians, temporary registration of physicians (effective August 18, 1970), limited registration of interns, fellows, residents, medical officers; discipline; complaints; records; registrations of assistants in medicine; examination and registration of physical therapists; verification of registrations for Registry of Motor Vehicles; approval of hospital affiliations for purposes of training. For details, see previous annual reports.

LEGISLATION:

The Board often initiates legislation, always reviews and sometimes makes recommendations in regard to proposed new legislation pertaining to registration of physicians and the practice of medicine.

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The Board initiated six items of legislation for submission to the 1970-1971 session of the legislature:

1. House No. 144, Act abolishing the Approving Authority for Colleges and Medical Schools and permitting the endorsement registration of certain officers of the Armed Forces and of the Public Health Service and certain foreign medical school graduates. On July 15, 1970, Chapter 540, Acts of 1970, An Act authorizing the Board of Registration in Medicine to grant without examination certificates of registration as qualified physicians to certain medical officers and to certain physicians licensed in another country or in another state, was enacted and became effective October 15, 1970. This was a modification of Senate No. 222, submitted in 1969 by the Board. The modification was Senate No. 919, submitted on behalf of the medical school deans. Senate No. 919 prevailed and became Chapter 540, Acts of 1970. Inequities in this Act became obvious and difficulties in interpretation arose. House No. 144 was submitted to obviate these difficulties and at the same time abolish the Approving Authority for Colleges and Medical Schools which actually had been legislated out of effect or function. Enactment of House No. 144 with modifications appeared likely at the close of the fiscal year.

2. House No. 145, An Act clarifying the type of registration to be issued to certain physicians. Chapter 234, Acts of 1968 confused temporary and limited registration. House No. 145 eliminated this confusion and became law March 9, 1971.

3. House No. 146, An Act granting to the Board of Registration in Medicine the use of expert advice and assistance in devising and conducting examinations. This bill was referred by the Committee to House Ways and Means for a study.

4. House No. 147, An Act providing necessary traveling expenses of a member of the Board of Registration in Medicine for attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Federated State Boards. Despite the fact that an item for this expense has been included in the approved budget annually, the Comptroller has refused to pay such expenses because Chapter 112, General Laws, provides only for expenses incidental to attendance at meetings. This Bill died in Committee on March 30, 1971 despite the fact the Commonwealth spends \$600.00 annually for membership in the Federation.

5. House 148, An Act to increase the examination and re-examination fees for registration of Physical Therapists. This bill failed enactment despite the fact that the examinations from the Professional Examination Service now cost the Board more than the fees permitted by present statutes.

6. House No. 149, An Act to provide a fee for temporary registration as qualified physicians under designated circumstances. The original Act permitting temporary registration failed to provide a fee for the service. This bill was submitted to correct this oversight, but it failed of enactment, a situation as difficult to understand as was the failure to enact House No. 148.

STATISTICAL SUMMARIES

TABLE I

Total number of Examinees	171	
Passed	104	
Failed	67	
Foreign Medical School Graduates		160
Passed	99	
Failed	61	
Graduates of Unapproved Schools	5	
Passed	0	
Failed	5	
Graduates of American or		
Canadian Medical Schools	5	
Passed	5	
Failed	0	

TABLE II

Total Number of Physicians Registered	949
By Examination	104
By National Board Endorsement	616
By Endorsement of another state	
License	176
Under Chapter 540, Acts of 1970	53
Total number of limited registrations granted	2619
Total number of limited registrations as assistants in medicine granted	307
Total number of Physical Therapists Registered	137
Total number of M.D. plate certifications issued	90
Total number of Physical Therapy renewals revived	33

TABLE III

Disciplinary Actions

Revocations	1
Suspensions	1 (suspended suspension)
Restorations	0

Hearings	5
Not guilty	1
Guilty	2
Censure	1
Suspended Susepnsion	1
Revocation	1
Restoration denied	2

Appearance upon invitation by Board	6
Letter of Censure	1
Adjudicated Complaints	3
Disciplinary Discussion	2

COMPLAINTS

An increasing number of complaints was evident this year due to referrals from The Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office. Many of the complaints concern matters not within the jurisdiction of the Board. The complainant in such cases is so notified and, if possible, referred to the agency which might afford help, namely, the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Massachusetts Osteopathic Society, Blue Cross, Blue Shield, the Departments of Public and Mental Health. Many complaints are handled by telephone or personal negotiation with the doctor concerned by the Secretary. Others are referred to the full Board for disposition, and the Board may recommend no action, invitation to appear before the full Board, or citation for a formal hearing.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS OF THE BOARD FISCAL YEAR 1970-1971

On July 9, 1970 the Board voted to permit the Secretary to approve hospital affiliations upon receipt of proper documentation, thus facilitating prompt recognition and lessening the Board's necessity for consideration of routine matters.

In November 1970, the Board was prompted by reports of abuses of the status and privileges of limited registration to direct the Secretary to publish in the New England Journal of Medicine an explanation and clarification of the privileges and obligations of a registrant under Chapter 9 of Chapter 112, General Laws. Such a communication was published as "Privileges of Limited Registration" in the New England Journal of Medicine, Vol. 284, No. 13, p. 734, April 1, 1971.

The Board has previously considered Canadian medical school graduates not to be graduates of foreign medical schools, but on January 21, 1971 it received an Attorney General's opinion that a Canadian medical school graduate is a foreign medical school graduate for the purpose of Chapter 234 of the Acts of 1968, permitting unlimited renewal of limited registration in state and municipal hospitals.

On the basis of a written opinion from the Office of the Attorney General, the Board voted June 24, 1971 to require a Standard E.C.F.M.G. Certificate as a prerequisite to limited registration of a foreign medical school graduate. This is the only mechanism by which the Board can be reasonably certain that the candidate has at least the minimal medical education of the average graduate

of an American medical school and that he has sufficient command of the English language to communicate with associates and patients.

After a study of the Secretary of registration in the United States of graduates of Canadian medical schools and registration in Canada of American medical school graduates, the Board modified its stand on endorsement registration of Canadians and will seek legislation to permit registration without examination of graduates of Canadian medical schools who are licensed both by the Medical Council of Canada and a provincial licensing body.

Although an Attorney General's opinion limits registration as assistants in medicine to students in Massachusetts schools, the Board has extended this privilege to students of out-of-state medical schools sponsored during their activities in Massachusetts hospitals by the dean of a Massachusetts school. Foreign medical school graduates are not eligible for registration as assistants in medicine (clinical clerks).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM - INADEQUATE PERSONNEL

The Board still does not have on a permanent full time basis the necessary and authorized personnel for handling the routine office work load. This work load continues to increase. The revenue reverting to the General Fund continues to increase as attached tables clearly indicate, but, it is impossible to keep correspondence and records current. The situation during the past fiscal year has been somewhat improved, recent years and the recent Auditor's report was a glowing tribute compared to recent critical reviews, but that problem has been the subject of bitter lament in previous annual reports without adequate response. There is urgent need for a Senior Clerk Typist in order to free the Principal Clerk for the administrative responsibilities which she should assume and for which she is amply fitted.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

1. An Act providing necessary traveling expenses of a member of the Board of Registration in Medicine for attendance at the annual meeting of the Federated State Medical Boards of the United States.

For some years, this expenditure was permitted until the Comptroller noted that the specific language, Chapter 112, Section 11, of the General Laws permitted only expenses incidental to meetings of the Board. Attendance at the annual meeting of the Federated Boards is necessary if the Board is to be familiar with what other state boards are doing e.g. in the field of continuing medical education and in possible registration of physician assistant categories. It is especially relevant now that the Board's examination is the Flex examination provided by the Federated Boards. Experiences of other Boards with this examination and possible modifications of the examination are of legitimate concern to the Board. Massachusetts pays \$600.00 annually for membership in the Federation but reaps little gain for this money if no Board member attends the annual meeting. This legislation was submitted in 1971, but not enacted.

2. An Act providing for a increase in the fees for examination and re-examination for registration as a physical therapist from \$25.00 to \$50.00 and \$10.00 to \$25.00 respectively.

The requested changes are in 23B and 23E, Chapter 585 Acts of 1958, necessitated by the fact that the price of the examination by the Professional Examination Service has increased from \$12.50 to \$25.00 effective July 1, 1970. Unless this legislation is adopted, the Commonwealth is furnishing gratis to physical therapists all the expense of processing all applications, all correspondence pertaining thereto, and the cost of proctoring and conducting the examinations. Again, this legislation was submitted in 1970, but not enacted, a state of affairs somewhat difficult for a taxpayer to understand.

3. An Act to provide for a fee for the issuance of a temporary registration as a qualified physician.

Chapter 325 of the Acts of 1970 made no provision for a fee for temporary registration. Legislation was submitted to correct this oversight in 1970, but failed of enactment, again a situation difficult for a taxpayer to understand.

4. An Act establishing the Approving Authority for Schools for Medical Laboratory Technologists.

This legislation became necessary when Chapter 662, Acts of 1971, abolished the Approving Authority for Schools and Medical Colleges and simultaneously and inadvertently or unintentionally abolished also the Approving Authority for Schools for Medical Laboratory Technologists (Chapter 759, Acts of 1955). However, Judge Chmielinski had ruled in Superior Court that this Act (Chapter 759, Acts of 1955) was invalid, that the Act had been changed by striking out a provision in the engrossed bill after it had been signed by the Governor. New legislation to correct this situation was necessary before the enactment of Chapter 662, Acts of 1971.

5. An Act establishing an Approving Authority for Schools for Medical X-ray Technicians.

This legislation became necessary when Chapter 662, Acts of 1971, abolishing the Approving Authority for Schools and Medical Colleges also unintentionally and inadvertently abolished the Approving Authority for Schools for Medical X-ray Technicians (Chapter 655, Acts of 1957).

6. An amendment to Chapter 112, Section 2, permitting the registration without examination of graduates of Canadian medical schools licensed by the Medical Council of Canada and one of the provincial licensing authorities in Canada.

The Secretary of the Board of Registration in Medicine recommended the registration of Canadian Medical School graduates in the fifty states and of American medical school graduates in Canada and recommended to the Board that Canadian Medical School graduates be registered as a

qualified physician; in Massachusetts if licensed by the Medical Council of Canada and a provincial licensing authority in Canada. The Board voted approval of seeking such legislation.

7. An Act granting to the Board of Registration in Medicine the use of expert advice and assistance in devising and conduct of examinations.

This amendment of Chapter 112, General Laws, was submitted last year, but failed of enactment, being referred to a study. It permits and authorizes the Board to use sophisticated up-to-date methods of examination and removes from the statutes the mention of specific subjects in which a candidate must be examined. This is in tune with curricular changes in American medical schools in their attempts to adopt medical school training to the needs of the modern day practice of medicine.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Wallwork

DAVID W. WALLWORK, M.D.
Secretary

TABLE V

REVIEW OF WORK LOAD - BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

1943-1968 (25 years)

	Total Number Registered as Qualified Physicians	By Endorsement of National Board Certificate	By Endorsement of Registration in another State	By Examination	Registration of Foreign Medical School Graduates	Graduates of Unapproved Medical Schools	Limited Registrations	Registration of Medical Assistants	Verification of Licensure For Registry of Motor Vehicles	Physical Therapy Registration			
										Renewals	Examination	Waiver	Endorsement
1943	131	47	0	88	2		255	255					
1944	352	105	0	247	15	142	373	395					
1945	229	88	0	141	11	52	509	385					
1946	395	283	0	112	8	28	569	414					
1947	563	367	113	83	7	26	445	112					
1948	427	248	101	78	5	38	571	345					
1949	390	276	53	61	13	24	701	280					
1950	380	280	62	38	11	11	778	289					
1951	234	153	57	24	5	7	706	305					
1952	379	271	73	35	9	5	774	305					
1953	369	266	64	39	10	4	928	325				338	
1954	409	295	76	38	10	3	1283	331				123	
1955	411	298	72	41	11	3	1707	314				3	
1956	378	273	69	31	14	0	1729	296				71	
1957	349	248	65	36	24	0	2037	313			29	2	
1958	401	265	100	36	23	1	2158	314			1	0	3
1959	432	394	81	47	34	0	2231	325			34	0	7
1960	431	289	98	44	21	0	2207	325			67	174	10
1961	444	282	118	41	34	0	2238	310			43	0	9
1962	421	274	102	45	34	0	2008	310			67	0	3
1963	503	362	102	39	33	0	2244	301			57	0	9
1964	507	358	103	41	33	0	2118	304			47	1	13
1965	620	430	147	43	37	0	2012	254			59	0	12
1966	570	392	134	44	46	0	2506	335	3948		65	0	5
1967	698	465	141	92	86	1	2318	304	365		51	0	
1968	708	482	156	70	65	0	2442	303	1205	1019	60	0	27
1969	734	547	164	83	78	0	2504	414	166	18	77	0	37
1970	805	577	175	53	51	0	2450	459	123	1209	91	0	42
1971	949	616	229*	104	152*	0	2619	307	90	33	93	0	45

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>INCOME REVERTED TO GENERAL FUND</u>
1952	\$16,571.25	\$17,258.87	\$ -687.62
1953	\$16,851.00	\$17,451.88	\$ -600.88
1954	\$19,886.55	\$18,084.59	\$ 1,801.96
1955	\$29,898.25	\$20,889.84	\$ 9,008.41
1956	\$29,176.00	\$23,670.06	\$ 5,505.94
1957	\$30,330.00	\$24,824.11	\$ 5,505.84
1958	\$35,070.00	\$24,430.99	\$10,639.01
1959	\$36,082.25	\$24,519.21	\$10, 563.04
1960	\$48,725.00	\$25,738.40	\$22,986.60
1961	\$46,318.00	\$27,133.86	\$19,184.14
1962	\$50,208.10	\$29,187.10	\$21,021.00
1963	\$50,636.33	\$29,965.68	\$20,670.65
1964	\$55,853.10	\$29,338.75	\$26,514.35
1965	\$64,298.00	\$32,518.54	\$31,779.46
	\$70, 581.00	\$37,751.37	\$32,829.63
1967	\$71,816.10	\$39,250.07	\$32,566.03
1968	\$78,629.46	\$38,265.46	\$30,364.00
1969	\$78,473.11	\$36,146.61	\$42,326.50
1970	\$103,821.18	\$45,983.49	\$58,446.78